

Mission: Stockton's Teacher Education (TEDU) program is designed to prepare new teachers to demonstrate competence in the subject matter they teach, understand and apply appropriate pedagogy, and to demonstrate caring teaching practices in diverse settings. The program is accredited by the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) for a period of seven years, from 2013 to 2020.

Institutional Context: The Stockton School of Education (SOE) is one of eight schools within Stockton College that offers degree programs. As a concentration of courses complementing liberal arts baccalaureate degree programs with post-baccalaureate option, TEDU is not a “major” in education at Stockton. Students earning their baccalaureate degree from Stockton must select from one of the four schools (Arts & Humanities, General Studies, Natural Sciences and Mathematics or Social and Behavioral Sciences). The TEDU Program then accompanies this degree with all of our certification courses and the option of earning the Bachelor of Arts in Teacher Education as a second degree if a student wishes. As a result, the School of Education interacts heavily with these four schools on every level: faculty, curriculum and students.

Student Population: Students officially enter the certification sequence of the TEDU program at Stockton after having earned a minimum of 64 credits towards their liberal arts (content area) bachelor’s degree and meeting all prerequisite requirements set by the TEDU Program. However, many students begin as early as their freshman year to take pre-certification courses from the TEDU program. Approximately 500 students per year enroll in these courses. Stockton recommends approximately 100 students per year for certification, most for K-6 and many with middle school specializations of high school subject areas. Like many similar programs nationwide, our current population is majority female and Caucasian.

Future Goals: TEDU is working towards recruiting more diverse candidates to the program, collaborating with our most diverse sending high school districts. We now offer a Future Educators Association conference and a Summer Urban Teaching Academy on campus. TEDU is also working with Math and Science programs on campus to increase the number of students from those majors who pursue certification.

Distinctive TEDU Features: The TEDU Program features a purposeful sequence of experiences to develop candidates into competent novice teachers. Prior to entry, an introductory seminar acclimates students to the NJ teaching profession. This is followed by two full semesters of practicum totaling 160 hours of experience before student teaching. The first of these placements is in a high-needs urban school district. Complemented by a Practices & Techniques of teaching course that focuses on the potential and complexities of the urban context, this innovative program conscientiously prepares teachers for success in diverse settings. TEDU also requires every candidate to complete one of the three field experiences in a middle school setting, ensuring that both K-6 and K-12 candidates work with young adolescent learners. Our entire fieldwork sequence includes attention to differentiating for multicultural, ELL, inclusion and special education students. Coursework is enhanced through 21st century-equipped college classrooms and a Taskstream assessment system. The program is further aligned to a state-

approved model of teacher evaluation, Danielson's Framework, to ensure consistency with K-12 teaching practices.